[20th October 1947

SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" May I inform the Hon. the Minister that the village committees do not at all come into the picture in the matter of distribution of sugar, as it stands at present?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" No. The village committees do have a share in the distribution."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" As a member of the District Food Committee and the Taluk Food Committee, I know for certain that special quotas are being given by the Collector and the Revenue Board on account of which the taluk committees and the village committees are very greatly handicapped, so far as distribution of sugar is concerned. So, may I request the Hon. the Minister to enquire into the matter and find out whether special quotas are being given and if so whether he will try to compensate for the special quotas that are being given?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" It is not generally so in the districts. Perhaps in Chingleput being very near Madras, it may be that what the hon. Member has said is a fact but I may assure the hon. Member that I shall call for the information."

The Tungabhadra Project.

* 84 Q.—SRI S. B. ADITYAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether disputes have arisen between the Governments of Madras and Hyderabad, on technical matters relating to the construction of the Tungabhadra Project;

(b) if so, what are the points at dispute;

(c) whether the disputes have been referred to an arbitrator; and

(d) if so, what are the arbitrator's awards?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (a) There is some difference of opinion on technical details between the Chief Engineers of Madras and Hyderabad.

"(b) the points on which there is difference of opinion are (i) nature of the mortar to be used in the construction of the dam (ii) design of the spillway, (iii) design of overflow and non-overflow sections of the dam, and (iv) contraction joints.

"(c) No. They were referred to a Board of Engineers appointed by the Governments of Madras and Hyderabad with Sir M. Visvesvaraya as Chairman, and Diwan Bahadur N. Govindaraja Ayyangar, Special Chief Engineer, Madras Government, and Mr. S. M. Younus, Chief Engineer for Irrigation, Hyderabad Government as members.

20th October 1947]

"(d) The majority of the Board of Engineers expressed its opinion in favour of surki mortar as it would be cheaper and available locally, while cement would have to be purchased from outside and brought from a distance. It was however agreed that cement could be used for special purposes, i.e., in parts where special strength was needed. With regard to the design of the spillway it was agreed to allow 15 feet depth gates and 20 feet depth of maximum flow, and limit the length of the spillway to 230 feet. The crest of the spillway should be of reinforced cement concrete and its rear face of cut stone in cement mortar. As regards the design of the overflow and non-overflow sections of the dam (gravity and ogee profiles) it was agreed that the top sections should be as proposed by Madras and the bottom sections as proposed by Hyderabad and the two sections should be neatly connected on the down stream face by a suitable curve. As for contraction joints, it was agreed that none need be provided for the lime surki masonry of the dam.

The Madras Government have not yet considered the report of the Board of Engineers."

Mr. PRESIDENT :—"I wish to draw the attention of the Hon. the Minister to the fact that this enlarged answer has not been communicated to the office."

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—"The answer has been revised. I have just now handed over a note to the Secretary that I would be reading a revised answer. Since the preparation of the original answer, we have received a report from the Board of Chief Engineers. That is why the answer has been revised."

Mr. PRESIDENT :—"As soon as you get the revised answer, it may be sent to this department."

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—"Only this morning, I got the revised answer, Sir."

Mr. PRESIDENT :—"We saw the report in the papers some time back." (Laughter.)

Sri S. B. ADITYAN :—"May I know whether these findings are generally in accordance with the stand taken by the Madras Government's Engineers?"

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—"It is not exactly so, Sir."

Sri R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"Is this award binding upon the Madras Government?"

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—"We have referred the matter to the Board of Chief Engineers and we must accept the majority's verdict. There must be some finality in this matter."

[20th October 1947

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know from the Hon. the Minister whether the Government of Hyderabad who have to accept these findings, will accept all those findings?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I have no idea about it but I am sure they will be accepting them."

Irrigation scheme of the Gosthani river.

* 85 Q.—SRI P. VIRABHADRASWAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) what action has been taken on the petitions of the villagers of Reddipallee Agraharam, Potnuru, Kothavalasa and other villages requesting the Government to take up the irrigation scheme of the Gosthani river near Bhimasingi railway bridge in the Bimlipatam taluk, Vizagapatam district ;

(b) whether investigation of the scheme has been taken up; and

(c) what the estimated cost of the scheme is ?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (a) The Government have had the request examined by the Public Works Department Officers. The site where a dam has been proposed by the petitioners has accordingly been inspected by the local Subdivisional Officer, who has thereupon reported that all the lands for which irrigation is sought for are on a high level and that they are therefore not commendable. This has already been explained to the petitioner who accompanied the Subdivisional Officer during his inspection of the site. No further action is proposed to be taken.

" (b) & (c) Do not arise."

Irrigation schemes in the Ceded districts.

* 86 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the names of irrigation schemes in the Ceded districts included in the five-year programme under Grow More Food Scheme or otherwise;

(b) the names of schemes with full particulars sanctioned for execution during the first year;

(c) whether in the selection of schemes the question of return on Capital Outlay has influenced the choice ; and

(d) whether the Government will be pleased to make a statement on the question of returns as applicable to different tracts in the Presidency?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (a) A statement [a] of the names of irrigation schemes in the Ceded districts included in the five-year programme under Grow More Food scheme or otherwise is laid on the table of the House.

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[a] Printed as Appendix II on pages 471–473 infra.